

18 September 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Inspector General

SUBJECT : Congressional Liaison

REFERENCE : Draft memo dtd 14 Sep 53 to DCI fr IG, same subject.

1. I am in complete agreement that the time has come for a positive Congressional Liaison Program. It seems reasonably clear that Congress is going to insist upon knowing more and more about our business. If we take the offensive in the matter we may be able to develop this trend to our definite advantage, or, as a minimum, avoid its becoming harmful to the Agency. If we do not take the initiative, I think that Congress will and that the trend may be to the Agency's detriment, even with the best congressional intentions.

2. With regard to your specific recommendations:

Paragraph 6. a.

Concur; except that once a week seems to be too frequent. Although this is important, I don't think that the Director really has that much time to give to it if it is envisaged that it would continue for a prolonged period.

Paragraph 6. b.

Concur; however, we should be very careful in recommending a staff to the Committee. It is my impression that a staff could "run the Committee" and we should certainly avoid giving any impression that we are trying to stack the staff with our own people in order to influence the Committee's actions.

Paragraph 6. c.

Concur.

Paragraph 6. d.

Concur.

Paragraph 6. e.

This is all right for the record, but I don't think that the Director personally needs to read all of it. A

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lot of it will be very routine and need not come to his attention. If it is prepared in detail, I would recommend that it be summarized or annotated in some way so that the Director could, in a minimum of time, see the items which the Legislative Counsel definitely thought he should see.

Paragraph 6. f.

(1) Concur.

(2) I do not agree that it is necessary for the Legislative Counsel to be present at all congressional contacts, especially if these include contacts with congressional staffs. I agree that he should know of the contacts and make the initial appointments, introductions, etc.; however, there are occasions when his personal presence certainly is not essential. I have in mind particularly some of the fairly detailed and technical discussions which take place with representatives of the Appropriations Committees, as well as the Joint Committee on Printing. If he is present at such meetings, the Legislative Counsel should not be expected to be the Agency spokesman. When he has brought the principals together for discussion of a technical or policy problem his liaison function has been performed.

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L. K. WHITE  
Acting Deputy Director  
(Administration)

1 Att:  
Memo dtd 14 Sep 53 (draft)  
to DCI fr IG, sub: "Congressional Liaison."

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